

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 11955 181610Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSM-03 IO-13
(ISO) W

-----102231 181711Z /43

O R 181527Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7376
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USIA WASHDC
NSC WHITE HOUSE

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USIA FOR IOP/M

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EG, US, IS, XF
SUBJ: EGYPIANS ON BEST BEHAVIOR AS BEGIN-CARTER TALKS ABOUT
TO START

REF (A) CAIRO 11481, (B) CAIRO 11634, (C) CAIRO 11736,
(D) CAIRO 11850, (E) CAIRO 11854, (F) CAIRO 11880,

SUMMARY: CAIRO PRESS SAY S BEGIN PROPOSALS WILL GET LUKEWARM
RECEPTION FROM PRESIDENT. IT DISGRUNTLED BY ISRAELI APPROACH
TO PEACE BUT REPLIES IN LOW KEY. SADAT ATTEMPTING TO BE
HELPFUL TO US SETTLEMENT ROLE AND WILL BE LOOKING FOR US AND
ISREALI RESPONSE VIA CARTER-BEGIN MEETINS. END SUMMARY
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1. CAIRO PRESS HAS GIVEN RELATIVELY LOW KEY COVERAGE TO
BEGIN'S ARRIVAL AND ACTIVITIES IN US, USUALLY WITH IN-
FERENCE THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION DISAGREES WITH HIM.
EDITORIALISTS AND GOE SPOKESMEN HAVE CONTINUED RESTRAINT
SHOWN SINCE BEGIN'S ELECTION.

2. ACCORDING TO AHAM JULY 18 SENIOR US ADM OFFICIAL IN WASHINGTON REPORTS BEGIN HAS BROUGHT SECRET PLAN TO US. PLAN SAID TO PROPOSED STEY-BY-STEP SOLUTION, "PROCEDURE THAT CARTER DOES NOT PREFER." DETAILS OF WITHDRAWAL AND WEST BANK QUESTIONS WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL BY BEGIN. PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY WANTS TO KNOW BEGIN CONCEPTION OF SC RES 242, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS PORTION ON WITHDRAWAL. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, MEETING WILL CLARIFY CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH ISRAEL WOULD ACCEPT PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA, AND IT LIKELY AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED ON RE-CONVENING MEPC.

3. ON POSITIVE SIDE, SADAT HAS DURING PAST FIVE DAYS MADE SERIES OF EXTENSIVELY PUBLICIZED STATEMENTS, DESIGNED TO PUT EGYPTIAN POSITION ON PEACE PROCESS ON RECORD IN TERMS WHICH SADAT HOPES WILL BE HELPFUL IN UPCOMING CARTER/BEGIN TALKS.
SADAT COVERED FOLLOWING:

A(A) NATURE OF PEACE: MOST EXPLICIT PUBLIC STATEMENT TO DATE WAS MADE TO CODEL HAMILTON (CAIRO 11850). KEY CLARIFICATION WAS THAT PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS SHOULD ELAPSE BETWEEN SIGNING OF PEACE AGREEMENT ENDING STATE OF BELLIGERENCY AND BEGINNING OF NORMALIZATION PROCESS.

(B) SUPPORT FOR 242 AND WILLINGNESS TO LIVE WITH ISRAEL IN PEACE AS MIDDLE EASTERN NATION STATED MOST EXPLICITLY IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JULY 16 TELEVISED MEETING OF ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE (CAIRO 11879).

(C) RETURN OF EGYPTIAN JEWS. THIS NEW INITIATIVE EXPRESSED IN AHAM INTERVIEW (SEPTTEL)

(D) LINK OF PALESTINIAN STATE WITH JORDAN. REPEATEDLY PRESSED HUSAYN AND PLO ON NEED TO AGREE, PREFERABLY BEFORE GENEVA, ON FORMAL RELATIONSHIP. (REF A)

4. EDITORIALS IS AHAM AND GUMHURRIYA JULY 18 HAILED SADAT'S DECLARATION BEFORE ASU THAT EGYPT WILLING LIVE IN PEACE WITH ISRAEL AS MIDDLE EAST STATE LIVING BEHIND JUNE 67 BORDERS AS ITS RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES. HOWEVER, STRESSED THAT PEACE AND CONTINUED OCCUPATION MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. EDITORIALS DISGRUNTLED THAT ISRAELI MEDIA REACTED TO SADAT SPEECHES AS PROPAGANDA AND THAT THEY ACCUSED SADAT OF TALKING OF PEACE WHEN IN FACT HE SEEKS WAR. EDITORIALS CALLED ON ISRAEL TO PROCEED IN CONSCIOUSNESS OF OCT WAR, WHICH HAD TURNED WORLD OPINION TO SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN RIGHT TO RETURN AND TO ESTABLISH OWN STATE.

5. COMMENT: EGYPTIANS CLEARLY NETTLED BY NEGATIVE ISREALI RESPONSE TO WHAT EGYPTIANS CONSIDER FORTHCOMING AND FAIR

POSITION. STILL, FACT THAT MILD EDITORIALS MENTIONED ABOVE ARE HARSHTEST TREATMENT OF ISRAEL IN SOME TIME REFLECTS CONSIDERABLE RESTRAINT SADAT HAS IMPOSED ON PRESS AS PART OF ATTEMPT TO BE HELPFUL TO PRES CARTER'S EFFORTS TO ARRIVE AT SETTLEMENT. AS WE HAVE NOTED BEFORE, PRESS HAS MADE NO MENTION OF RECENT ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY. IT HAS REPORTED ONLY BRIEFLY AND FACTUALLY ON BEGIN'S WEST BANK STATEMENTS AND HAS CEASED TO REGISTER CONCERNS, WHICH STILL WIDESPREAD, THAT ISRAEL MAY BE ON VERGE OF TAKING PRE-EMPTIVE MILITARY ACTION IN SOUTH LEBANON. SADAT ALSO APPROVED EXCHANGE BETWEEN MINWAR GAMASY AND ISRAELIS THROUGH UN COORDINATOR SIILASVUO AND HANDING BACK WITH DIGNITY OF 19 ISRAELI BODIES DISCOVERED ON EAST BANK OF CANAL. THEY ARE BEING TRANSFERRED TO GOI THROUGH UN JULY 19.

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6. WITH HIS RASH OF STATEMENTS, SADAT HAS FOR THE MOMENT SHOT HIS WAD. THERE WOULD APPEAR LITTLE MORE HE FEELS CAN SAY PUBLICLY WITHOUT SOME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM WASHINGTON OR TEL AVIV. WE EXPECT HE WILL MAINTAIN HELPFUL POSTURE, AT LEAST UNTIL RESULTS OF BEGIN VISIT CLEAR, AND HE-LIKE ALL EGYPTIANS-WILL BE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING NEWS OF OUTCOME THESE WASHINGTON TALKS.

EILTS

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, PDEV, EG, IS, US, XF, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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